

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release Nov. 15, 2013 **Contact:** Paul Romer

Public Information Officer 254-933-5889 (Office) 254-760-7879 (Cell)

Belton Recognizes America Recycles Day

This week 9,600 new recycling and trash carts were delivered to Belton in preparation for implementation of City-wide recycling for Belton residents beginning on Jan. 6. In conjunction with *America Recycles Day*, we invite Belton residents to a public meeting about the new recycling service. The come-and-go meeting will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 19, at the Harris Community Center.

The public meeting will give people the opportunity to inspect the new recycling and trash carts, and see examples of acceptable recyclable material. In addition, information on service schedules and rate changes will be available. City staff will be present to answer questions.

The City studied the merits of recycling and tested it out with a successful pilot program in multiple neighborhoods for the past two years. The forthcoming changes in service include replacing self-provided trash cans with two separate 96-gallon carts that are provided by the City's solid waste vendor Waste Management. Residential customers will transition from twice a week trash pickup to once a week trash and biweekly recycling service.

Look for carts to be delivered to neighborhoods the week of Dec. 16. Although all carts should be delivered by Dec. 20, residents should not place them at the curb, or collection point for service, until the week Jan. 6. The early delivery of carts is necessary due to the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.

On Tuesday, Mayor Jim Covington issued a proclamation for *America Recycles Day*, inviting residents to learn about and participate in the recycling effort.

In addition to preserving space in landfills, annual recycling in the United States saves energy equivalent to 229 million barrels of oil, or enough energy to power 10 million U.S. households, according to *America Recycles Day*.